

XXII.—On *Epilobium angustifolium*, and species which have been confounded with it. By Mr. H. O. STEPHENS.

To the Editors of the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*.

THERE appears to be two species of *Epilobium* confounded by British botanists with *E. angustifolium*, Linn.; one is probably indigenous, the other certainly so. I shall endeavour to furnish discriminating characters.

1st. *Epilobium angustifolium*, Linn. Leaves scattered, rather broadly lanceolate, veined, smooth; inflorescence subspicate; petals unequal; genitalia declined; stigma large, club-shaped; capsule short, turgid. Species Plantar. 493; Aiton, Hort. Kew., tom. ii. p. 4; Smith, Eng. Flor., tom. ii. 212; Eng. Bot., tab. 1947; Hooker, ed. iii. 182; Lindley, 108. *E. spicatum*, DeCandolle, Prodrum., pars iii. p. 40. *Lysimachia speciosa*, &c., Raii Synop., 310. *Chamænerion*, Ger. Emac., p. 477. fig. 7.

This is the common plant of the gardens, and is figured in 'English Botany.' The leaves are of a very dark green colour, rather broadly lanceolate, distantly and faintly serrated, in general outline resembling those of *Salix alba*. The upper part of the stem, towards the spike of flowers, very obscurely angular; flowers deep crimson; capsules short and very turgid.

2nd. *Epilobium macrocarpum*. Leaves scattered, linear-lanceolate, veined, smooth; inflorescence subspicate; petals unequal; genitalia declined; capsule very long, linear.

This plant is of a lighter and more elegant habit than the former; the flowers are of a paler shade, inclining to rose-colour; upper portion of the stem, towards the inflorescence, of a coral-red, and acutely angular. Stigma much smaller than in *E. angustifolium*, barely club-shaped. Leaves very pale green, narrow, lanceolate, distantly and faintly toothed, in general outline resembling those of *Salix viminalis*. Capsule very long, exceeding three inches in length, quite linear, without the least turgescence.

This plant differs from *Epilobium angustifolium*, Linn., in the leaves being narrow-lanceolate, of a very pale green, in the smaller stigma, paler flowers and more angular stem; but the specific difference consists in the very long linear capsule, totally unlike the short and turgid seed-vessel of *E. angustifolium*, Linn. Modern British botanists deny (unnecessarily, I think,) *E. angustifolium* to be a native plant; it was considered as such by Gerarde and Ray; and as it abounds in Sweden in situations much like those in which it is found here, this strengthens the supposition of its nationality. However this may be, there can be no doubt that the second spe-

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HENRY OXLEY STEPHENS.

Bristol, 3 Terrill Street, Aug. 26, 1841.

XXIII.—*A List of Flowering Plants found growing wild in Western Norfolk.* By the Rev. GEORGE MUNFORD*, Corresponding Member of the Botanical Society of London.

THE tract of country embraced by the hundreds of Freebridge Lynn, Freebridge Marshland, Clackclose and Smithdon, and which forms the western side of the county of Norfolk, contains the remarkable district called Marshland—a part of the great level of the Fens, and the higher ground bordering on the Wash, which lies between the counties of Norfolk and Lincolnshire.

From the extent and variety of this field, it will easily be seen that the botanist will find in it ample space for the exercise of his favourite pursuit.

Local advantages, derived from a residence of almost twenty years in the principal and central town of the district, may be supposed to enable the compiler of the following list to correct, in some few instances, the errors into which others, not residing on the spot, may have fallen; and perhaps to point out here and there a new locality for some of the rarer plants growing in the neighbourhood.

It is with this view that, with the kind assistance of two or three botanical friends also residing on the spot, the attempt has been made to give, as far as possible, a correct and perfect list of the plants that are found growing wild in Western Norfolk.

As little more has been done than to collect into one place what was previously known, but scattered throughout several published works, it may appear that labour and pains have been unnecessarily expended; but the employment itself has served to fill up, and very agreeably to amuse, many a leisure hour, and will tend to refresh the memory when the power of searching for these favourite objects of pursuit in the place of their growth shall no longer exist.

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